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Pest Management Regulatory Agency | Agence de réglementation de la lutte antiparasitaire

Proposed Maximum Residue Limit

PMRL2007-05

Clethodim

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Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act* (PCPA), has concluded that the addition of oilseed type oriental mustard to the labels of Centurion Emulsifiable Concentrate Post-Emergence Herbicide and Select Emulsifiable Concentrate Post-Emergence Herbicide, containing technical grade clethodim, and to the label of Amigo Adjuvant for the control of labelled grass species is acceptable. The specific uses that were approved in Canada are detailed on the labels of Centurion EC, Select EC and Amigo Adjuvant (PCPA Registration Number 27598, 22625 and 22644, respectively).

The evaluation of these clethodim applications indicated that the end-use products have merit and value and that the human health and environmental risks associated with the new use are acceptable. Details on theses registrations can be found in the corresponding Evaluation Report that is available on the PMRA website, under Public Registry, Product Information, Current Applications[1].

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain on or in the food when the pesticide is used according to the label directions and that such residues will not pose an unacceptable health risk. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Currently, MRLs are legally established under the Food and Drug Regulations (FDR) after consultation through the *Canada Gazette*. Amendments to the *Food and Drugs Act* (FDA), via Bill C-28, anticipated to come into force in 2007, will allow pesticide MRLs to be legally established under the PCPA without having to adopt MRLs by regulation under the FDA, resulting in a more efficient means of establishing, revising and revoking pesticide MRLs.

Consultation on the proposed MRLs for clethodim are being conducted via this document (see Next Steps). This action is being taken in advance of Bill C-28 coming into force to allow the MRLs to be legally established as soon as possible after the FDA is amended.

The proposed MRLs for clethodim in Canada in or on food, to be added to those currently established, and the existing MRL to be revised are as follows:

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1 The relevant report can be accessed by selecting the Applications/Amendment/All tab and opening the Evaluation Report found under Application Number 2005-1777.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits and Revisions to Existing MRLs for Clethodim

Common Chemical Name	Chemical Name of Substance	Food Commodities	Existing MRL (ppm)	Proposed MRL (ppm)
Clethodim	(*E*,*E*)-(±)-2-[1-[[-3-chloro-2-propenyl)oxy]imino]propyl]-5-[2-(ethylthio)propyl]-3-hydroxy-2-cyclohexen-1-one, including metabolites containing the 2-cyclohex-1-enone moiety	Oriental mustard (oilseed type only)	—	**0.05**
		Mustard seed (condiment type only)	—	**0.4**
		Mustard seed*	0.4	—

* The existing MRL established to support the labelled condiment type mustard use is unchanged, but description revised to clearly identify that it only applies to condiment type mustard seed.

A complete list of all MRLs established in Canada can be found in Table II, Division 15 of the FDR. Once the amendments to the FDA via Bill C-28 are in force, the list of legally established Canadian MRLs will be available on the PMRA's MRL webpage, which will be updated to include the MRL listed in this document.

International Situation and Trade Implications

MRLs may vary from one country to another for a number of reasons, including differences in pesticide use patterns and the lc ations of the field crop trials used to generate residue chemistry data. Table 2 identifies differences among MRLs in Canada, tolerances in the United States and Codex[2] MRLs. The proposed MRLs in Canada differ from the corresponding tolerances in the United States as listed in 40 CFR 180 (searchable by pesticide). Currently, there are no Codex MRLs for clethodim on mustard seed (Codex MRLs searchable by pesticide or commodity).

Table 2 Comparison of Canadian MRLs, American Tolerances and Codex MRLs

Food Commodities	Canadian MRLs (ppm)	American Tolerances	Codex MRLs (ppm)
Mustard seed (condiment type only)	0.4	0.5*	No Codex MRLs have been established for clethodim in or on mustard seed.
Oriental mustard (oilseed type only)	0.05	0.5*	

* Corresponding American tolerance for clethodim under 40 CFR § 180.458 is for "Mustard, seed" is at 0.5 ppm.

2 Codex is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRL for clethodim within 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see address on the cover page of this document). Health Canada will consider all comments received prior to making a final decision on the proposed MRLs for clethodim and before posting an Established Maximum Residue Limit document on the PMRA's website once the amendments to the FDA are in force.